CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Government was in need of a contractor to provide a conceptual plan for the St. Croix East End Marine Park (STXEEMP) Visitor's Center; and

WHEREAS, Contractor was selected and provided the conceptual plan in January 2015 along with a Phase I Implementation Plan based on the needs outlined by the Government; and

WHEREAS, Government has been awarded a grant by the United States Department of the Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Award No. NA13NOS4820011 (the "Grant"), which includes the task of implementing projects covered under the STXEEMP Sustainable Finance Plan, which includes the development of a Visitor's Center for the STXEEMP; and

WHEREAS, Contractor is a "design-build" firm having the expertise and specialized equipment to produce the necessary components for the Phase I Implementation Plan; and

WHEREAS, Government seeks to retain the services of Contractor directly for the development of this plan to maintain consistency with the previously-developed conceptual plan; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor represents that it is willing and capable of providing such services;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, and intending to be legally bound by this written instrument, the parties hereto do covenant and agree as follows:

1. SERVICES

The Contractor will provide the services described in Addendum I (Scope of Work) attached hereto and made a part of this contract.

2. TERM

This Contract shall commence upon the execution of this Contract by the Governor of the Virgin Islands and shall terminate 365 days thereafter.

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3. COMPENSATION

The Government in consideration of the satisfactory performance of the services described in Addendum I (Scope of Work), agrees to pay Contractor the sum not to exceed EIGHTY FIVE THOUSAND & 00/100 DOLLARS (\$85,000.00) in accordance with the provisions set forth in Addendum II (Compensation) attached hereto and made a part of this contract.

4. TRAVEL EXPENSES

Inclusive in the compensation for services as specified in Paragraph 3 (Compensation) above, the Government agrees to pay documented transportation, subsistence, lodging and other travel expenses, while in travel status, for trips which have been authorized in writing, in advance, by the Government. These costs shall be advanced or reimbursed on the same basis as is applicable to non-contract employees of the Government, or as agreed to by an addendum to this Contract, however, said costs and expenses shall not exceed TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED & 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00).

5. RECORDS

The Contractor, when applicable, will present documented precise records of time and/or money expended under this Contract.

6. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Contractor agrees to maintain the professional standards applicable to its profession and to consultants doing business in the United States Virgin Islands.

7. DOCUMENTS, PRINTOUTS, ETC.

All documents, books, records, instructional materials, programs, printouts and memoranda of every description derived therefrom and pertaining to this Contract shall become the property of the Government and shall be turned over to it at the termination of this Contract. The above described materials shall not be used by Contractor or by any other person or entity except upon the written permission of the Government.

8. LIABILITY OF OTHERS

Nothing in this Contract shall be construed to impose any liability upon the Government to persons, firms, associations, or corporations engaged by Contractor as servants, agents, or independent contractors, or in any other capacity whatsoever, or make Government liable to any such persons, firms, associations, or corporations for the acts, omissions, liabilities, obligations and taxes of Contractor of whatsoever nature, including but not limited to unemployment insurance and social security taxes for Contractor, its servants, agents or independent contractors.

9. ASSIGNMENT

The Contractor shall not subcontract or assign any part of the services under this Contract without the prior written consent of the Government. Notwithstanding, Pursuant to the proposal submitted and accepted, it is understood and agreed that Contractor, at its own expense and risk, may subcontract part of the production portion of the services under this Agreement, as needed, to local producers as, ("Subcontractors"), provided, however, that such employment will be via a written subcontract which will incorporate by reference all of the terms and

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requirements of this Agreement except those relating to Compensation and Expenses. Contractor shall monitor all Subcontractors work product and confirm that all work products meets the requirements of this Agreement. This consent shall in no way relieve the Contractor of any obligations or responsibilities it may otherwise have under this Agreement or under law, shall neither create any obligation of the Government to, nor privity of contract with, the Subcontractors, and shall be without prejudice to any right or claim of the Government under the this Agreement.

10. INDEMNIFICATION

Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Government from and against any and all loss, damage, liability, claims, demands, detriments, cost, charges and expense (including attorney's fees) and causes of action of whatsoever character which Government may incur, sustain or be subjected to, arising out of or in any way connected to the services to be performed by Contractor under this Contract and arising from any cause, except the sole negligence of Government.

11. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

The Contractor shall perform this Contract as an independent Contractor and nothing herein contained shall be construed to be inconsistent with this relationship or status.

12. GOVERNING LAW

This Contract shall be governed by the laws of the United States Virgin Islands without regard to conflict of laws principles. Any and all suits for the enforcement of this agreement or arising from any breach of this agreement shall be filed and maintained in a court of competent jurisdiction in the United States Virgin Islands.

13. WAIVERS AND AMENDMENTS

No waiver, modification or amendment of any term, condition or provision of this Contract shall be valid or of any force or effect unless made in writing, signed by the parties hereto or their duly authorized representatives and specifying with particularity the nature and extent of such waiver, modification or amendment. Any such waiver, modification or amendment in any instance or instances shall in no event be construed to be a general waiver, modification or amendment of any of the terms, conditions or provisions of this Contract, but the same shall be strictly limited and restricted to the extent and occasion specified in such signed writing or writings.

14. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and all prior understanding or communications, written or oral, with respect to the Project, which is the subject matter of this Contract, are merged herein.

15. RIGHT TO WITHHOLD

If work under this Contract is not performed in accordance with the terms hereof, Government will have the right to withhold out of any payment due to Contractor, such sums as Government may deem ample to protect it against loss or to assure payment of claims arising therefrom, and, at its option, Government may apply such sums in such manner as Government

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may deem proper to secure itself or to satisfy such claims. Government will immediately notify the Contractor in writing in the event that it elects to exercise its right to withhold.

No such withholding or application shall, be made by Government if and while Contractor gives satisfactory assurance to Government that such claims will be paid by Contractor or its insurance carrier, if applicable in the event that such contest is not successful.

16. CONDITION PRECEDENT

This Contract shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds and to the approval of the Governor.

17. TERMINATION

Either party will have the right to terminate this Contract with or without cause on thirty (30) days written notice to the other party specifying the date of termination.

18. PARTIAL TERMINATION

The performance of work under this Contract may, be terminated by the Government, in part, whenever the Government shall deem such termination advisable. This partial termination shall be effected by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Partial Termination specifying the extent to which the term and/or duties under this Contract are terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective. The Contractor shall be entitled to receive payment for services provided to the date of termination, including payment for the period of the thirty (30) day notice.

19. NON-DISCRIMINATION

No person shall be excluded from participating in, be denied the proceeds of or be subject to discrimination in the performance of this Contract on account of race, creed, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

20. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- (a) Contractor covenants that it has no interest and will not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required to be performed under this Contract.
- (b) Contractor further covenants that it is:
 - (1) not a territorial officer or employee (i.e., the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, member of the Legislature, or any other elected territorial official; or an officer or employee of the legislative, executive or judicial branch of the Government or any agency, board, commission or independent instrumentality of the Government, whether compensated on a salary, fee or contractual basis); or
 - (2) a territorial officer or employee and, as such, has:
 - familiarized itself with the provisions of Title 3, Chapter 37
 of the Virgin Islands Code, pertaining to conflicts of
 interest, including the penalties provision set forth in
 section 1108 thereof;
 - (ii) not made, negotiated or influenced this Contract, in its official capacity;

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> no financial interest in the Contract as that term is defined (iii) in section 1101 (1) of said Code chapter.

21. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Contract shall be the day of execution of the Contract by the Governor.

22. NOTICE

Any notice required to be given, by the Terms of this Contract shall be deemed to have been given when the same is sent by certified mail, postage prepaid or personally delivered, addressed to the parties as follows:

GOVERNMENT

Randolph N. Bennett

Commissioner

Department of Property and Procurement Sub Base, Building #1, Third Floor St. Thomas, Virgin VI 00802

With copies to:

Dawn L. Henry, Esq.

Commissioner

Department of Planning & Natural Resources

8100 Lindberg Bay, Suite 61 St. Thomas, VI 00840

CONTRACTOR

Christian Buchholz

Vice President

Wilderness Graphics, Inc.

3465 Garber Drive Tallahassee, FL 32303

23. **LICENSURE**

The Contractor covenants that it has:

- (a) obtained all of the applicable licenses or permits, permanent, temporary or otherwise as required by Title 27 of the Virgin Islands Code; and
- (b) familiarized itself with the applicable provisions of Title 27 of the Virgin Islands Code pertaining to professions and occupations.

24. DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

By execution of this contract, the contractor certifies that it is eligible to receive contract awards using federally appropriated funds and that it has not been suspended or debarred from entering into contracts with any federal agency. The Contractor shall include this provision in each of its subcontracts hereunder and shall furnish its subcontractors with the current "LIST OF PARTIES EXCLUDED FROM FEDERAL PROCUREMENT OR NON PROCUREMENT". In the event the Contractor or any subcontractor misrepresents its eligibility to receive contract awards using federal funds, the Contractor or subcontractor agrees that it shall not be entitled to payment for any work performed under this contract or any subcontract and that the Contractor

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or subcontractor shall promptly reimburse the Government of the Virgin Islands for any progress payments heretofore made.

25. NOTICE OF FEDERAL FUNDING

Contractor acknowledges that this Contract is funded, in whole or in part, by federal funds. Contractor warrants that it shall not, with respect to this Contract, make or present any claim knowing such claim to be false, fictitious, or fraudulent. Contractor acknowledges that making such a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim is a federal offence.

24. **FALSE CLAIMS**

Contractor warrants that it shall not, with respect to this Contract, make or present any claim upon or against the Government of the Virgin Islands, or any officer, department, board, commission, or other agency thereof, knowing such claim to be false, fictitious, or fraudulent. Contractor acknowledges that making such a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim is an offense under Virgin Islands law.

27. OTHER PROVISIONS

Addendum IV, attached hereto containing Paragraphs 28 through 30, as well as Addendum I-III are part of this Contract and are incorporated herein by this reference.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands on the day and year first above written.

LITNESSES GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

august 4, 2016 Dawn L. Henry, Esq.

Commissioner

Department of Planning & Natural Resources

Randolph N. Bennett

Commissioner

Department of Property & Procurement

CONTRACTOR

Christian Buchholz

Wilderness Graphics, Inc.

Date

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Randolph N. Bennett

Department of Property and Procurement

Commissioner

APPROVED:

Kenneth El Mapp
GOVERNOR OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BY:

PURCHASE ORDER

ACCOUNT CODE NO.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

I hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of Contract No.[] entered into between
The Department of Property and Procurement and
The Horsley Witten Group

Date

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